

MINUTES OF THE
FINANCE COMMITTEE
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 16, 2008

At a meeting of the **Finance Committee**, held Wednesday, April 16, 2008, in the Board Room, on the 9th Floor of the Administration Building, Mt. Clemens, the following members were present:

Slinde-Chair, Brdak, Brown, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, Crouchman, DeSaele, DiMaria, Doherty, Drolet, Duzyj, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegem, Haggerty, Lund, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts, Rocca, Sauger, Switalski, Szczepanski, Tocco, Torrice and Vosburg.

There being a quorum of the committee present, Chair Slinde called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was recited.

AGENDA

MOTION

A motion was made by Rocca, supported by Roberts, to adopt the agenda, as amended (to include #10A, #11 (revised), #13 and three additional travel requests). **The Motion Carried.**

MINUTES

MOTION

A motion was made by J. Flynn, supported by Rocca, to approve the January 23, 2008 minutes of this committee, as written. **The Motion Carried.**

LIST OF BILLS AS PREPARED BY THE FINANCE DEPARTMENT

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION - MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY DUZYJ, SUPPORTED BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE MONTHLY BILLS (WITH CORRECTIONS, DELETIONS AND/OR ADDENDA) AND AUTHORIZE PAYMENT; FURTHER, TO APPROVE THE PAYROLL IN THE TOTAL AMOUNT OF \$10,318,063.58, WITH NECESSARY MODIFICATIONS TO THE APPROPRIATIONS. **THE MOTION CARRIED (WITH TOCCO ABSTAINING FROM BILLS FOR FALK AND TOCCO/FEES-DEFENSE ATTORNEYS AND TORRICE ABSTAINING FROM BILLS FOR TORRICE AND ZALEWSKI, PLLC/FEES-DEFENSE ATTORNEYS).**

**REPORT BY RISK MANAGER ON BLUE CROSS/BLUE SHIELD OF MICHIGAN
ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICE FEE REDUCTION**

MOTION

A motion was made by Camphous-Peterson, supported by DiMaria, to receive and file the report by the Risk Manager on the Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Michigan Administrative Service Fee Reduction. **The Motion Carried.**

**PRESENTATION BY PUBLIC WORKS ON PHASE 2 STORMWATER
PERMIT UPDATE**

Ms. Lynne Seymour, Environmental Engineer, gave an update on the National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System, most commonly known as Phase 2 Permit. She highlighted Macomb County's permit responsibilities and what the Board can do to assist them.

MOTION

A motion was made by Duzyj, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to receive and file the presentation by Public Works on Phase 2 Stormwater Permit Update. **The Motion Carried.**

APPOINTMENT OF LAW FIRM

MOTION

A motion was made by Haggerty, supported by Rengert, to appoint the law firm of Plunkett Cooney, P.C. to represent Macomb County in the case of Danny Allen Wilson and Janet M. Frederick-Wilson vs. Macomb County, et al. **The Motion Carried.**

**REQUEST BY DIRECTOR OF JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER FOR USE OF
CREDIT CARD FOR OUT OF COUNTY TRANSPORTING OF YOUTH**

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SAUGER, SUPPORTED BY RENGERT, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE REQUEST OF THE DIRECTOR OF THE MACOMB COUNTY JUVENILE JUSTICE CENTER FOR USE OF A CREDIT CARD FOR OUT OF COUNTY TRANSPORTING OF YOUTH.

Commissioner Doherty asked what the limit will be and Mr. Foster replied that the policy allows up to \$10,000, but they will work with Mr. Seidelman and appropriate the necessary amount.

Chair Slindle called for a vote on the motion and **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENTS

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY J. FLYNN, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS APPROVE THE FOLLOWING LEASE AGREEMENTS:

THREE YEAR LEASE WITH LAKESHORE LEGAL AID FOR SPACE AT THE VerKUILEN BUILDING FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2008 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010, WITH OPTIONS TO RENEW AS OUTLINED IN THE LEASE AGREEMENT AND

THREE YEAR LEASE WITH LEGAL AID AND DEFENDER ASSOCIATION, INC., FOR SPACE AT THE VerKUILEN BUILDING FOR THE PERIOD JANUARY 1, 2008 THROUGH DECEMBER 31, 2010, WITH OPTIONS TO RENEW AS OUTLINED IN THE LEASE AGREEMENT.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

AUTHORIZE PUBLICATION OF ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY

Chair Slind indicated that revised Articles of Incorporation were attached to the final agenda. She introduced Ms. Gail Warden, Chairman of the Zoo Board, and Mr. Ron Kagan, Director and CEO of the Detroit Zoological Society.

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY TORRICE, SUPPORTED BY DOHERTY, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS AUTHORIZE THE PUBLICATION OF THE PROPOSED ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION OF THE COUNTY OF MACOMB ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY.

AMENDMENT

A MOTION WAS MADE BY SZCZEPANSKI, SUPPORTED BY LUND, TO AMEND ARTICLE IV, AND INCLUDE SECTION 8 TO READ AS FOLLOWS: THE COUNTY OF MACOMB ZOOLOGICAL AUTHORITY WILL AT ALL TIMES BE RESTRICTED FROM CONTRACTING SERVICES FOR THE PURPOSES CONTAINED IN ARTICLE III TO VENDORS OR SERVICE PROVIDERS WHO PROVIDE FOR THEIR MEMBERSHIP, EMPLOYEES OR TO THE GENERAL PUBLIC PROVISIONS FOR ELECTIVE ABORTION IN ANY MANNER.

Commissioner Szczepanski explained that the County has removed elective abortion provisions from all of its health plans and that is what he is asking for in this amendment because he does not want the taxpayers to pay for this procedure.

Commissioner Switalski asked if the intent of the amendment is to ask the Detroit Zoo to not fund this for their employees in their health care system and Commissioner Szczepanski replied yes. Commissioner Switalski stated a point of clarification. He said the Board is not funding this, but asking the taxpayers to vote on whether they want to fund this or not.

Chair Slinde asked Ms. Smith if she had any comments. Ms. Smith indicated that she has not had an opportunity to research the amendment and whether it will interfere with the act.

Commissioner Doherty did not think this amendment could be adopted or the Board would be in violation of the law. Ms. Smith stated that it does indicate that an authority shall not participate in the governance of the zoological institution.

MOTION

A motion was made by Bruley, supported by DiMaria, to table the amendment to a later date.

Commissioner Doherty requested a point of information. She asked if the amendment is in order since the Board is not allowed by law to make this condition.

Mr. Brumbaugh stated that his office would need to take a further look at the language before ruling whether it would be inappropriate. He did indicate that a tabling motion only applies to the main motion.

Commissioners Bruley and DiMaria withdrew their tabling motion.

Commissioner Duzyj did not feel the amendment was relevant to the Articles of Incorporation.

Commissioner Gielegghem stated that the amendment is in direct conflict with Section IV and did not feel the Board should be inserting itself into the governance of the Detroit Zoo.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN ON THE AMENDMENT AS FOLLOWS:

VOTING YES WERE BROWN, DeSAELE, DROLET, LUND, RENGERT, ROCCA, VOSBURG AND SZCZEPANSKI. THERE WERE 8 "YES" VOTES.

VOTING NO WERE BRDAK, BRULEY, CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, CROUCHMAN, DOHERTY, DUZYJ, D. FLYNN, J. FLYNN, GIELEGHEM, HAGGERTY, MIJAC, ROBERTS, SAUGER, SWITALSKI, TOCCO, TORRICE AND SLINDE. THERE WERE 17 "NO" VOTES.

THE AMENDMENT WAS DEFEATED.

Commissioner Sauger asked if other counties have this type of board. Mr. Kagan replied that two other counties are in the deliberations process, but Macomb County will be the first in this region to create the Authority and adopt the Articles of Incorporation.

Commissioner Doherty questioned that if the City of Detroit takes over the Zoo at any time, does this Board have the power within the Articles to dissolve this Authority and thereby eliminate that tax to the residents. Ms. Smith stated that the Authority will have a contract with the Zoo and that can be included.

Commissioner DiMaria stated that many of his constituents have expressed their support, but with a caveat that the City of Detroit does not get the money or have control of the Zoo.

Board Chairman Crouchman confirmed that the money collected would go directly to the Detroit Zoo and not the City of Detroit and Mr. Kagan replied yes.

Discussion ensued about the water tower and concerns were expressed about the advertising at the top. Mr. Kagan stated that the water tower is a complicated issue and there is brand equity in the Detroit Zoo's name, but he felt that is a discussion that would go forward.

Commissioner DeSaele asked if they could give credit to the tri-county area and Mr. Kagan said he could discuss that with the attorneys. He said they are open to ideas, but need to make sure that the Zoo is not political and the funding that would be coming through the three Authorities would fund about one-third of their operating budget and there is still a lot being raised privately and coming through earned revenue.

A ROLL CALL VOTE WAS TAKEN AS FOLLOWS:

VOTING YES WERE BRDAK, BRULEY, CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, CROUCHMAN, DeSAELE, DiMARIA, DOHERTY, DUZYJ, D. FLYNN, J. FLYNN, GIELEGHEM, MIJAC, ROBERTS, ROCCA, SAUGER, SWITALSKI, TOCCO, TORRICE, VOSBURG AND SLINDE. THERE WERE 20 "YES" VOTES.

VOTING NO WERE BROWN, DROLET, LUND, RENGERT AND SZCZEPANSKI. THERE WERE 5 "NO" VOTES.

THE MOTION CARRIED.

TRAVEL REQUESTS

MOTION

A motion was made by Doherty, supported by DiMaria, to approve the travel requests as submitted.

Commissioner Drolet requested separation of the request from MSU Extension for the two day multicultural self-awareness workshop.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on all travel requests with the exception of the one separated and **The Motion Carried.**

MSU Extension

Commissioner Drolet referred to the explanation provided regarding diversity and wondered if there is a problem with that. He had a concern spending money on this.

Amendment

A motion was made by Bruley, supported by Gielegthem, to approve Commissioner Drolet to attend the workshop in order to examine it more fully.

Commissioner Drolet indicated that it will not be at taxpayers' expense.

Chair Slinde called for a vote on the amendment and **The Motion Carried.**

A roll call vote was taken on the separated travel request, as amended, as follows:

Voting Yes were Brdak, Bruley, Camphous-Peterson, DiMaria, Doherty, D. Flynn, J. Flynn, Gielegthem, Haggerty, Mijac, Rengert, Roberts, Sauger, Switalski, Tocco, Torrice, Vosburg and Slinde. There were 18 "Yes" votes.

Voting No were Brown, DeSaele, Drolet, Lund, Rocca and Szczepanski. There were 6 "No" votes.

The Motion Carried.

ADOPT RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARTIN KRAMER – EAGLE SCOUT (OFFERED BY DeSAELE)

COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION – MOTION

A MOTION WAS MADE BY CAMPHOUS-PETERSON, SUPPORTED BY TORRICE, TO RECOMMEND THAT THE BOARD OF COMMISSIONERS ADOPT A RESOLUTION COMMENDING MARTIN KRAMER – EAGLE SCOUT. **THE MOTION CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION

A motion was made by Torrice, supported by Camphous-Peterson, to adjourn the meeting at 10:25 a.m. **The Motion Carried.**